

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat'l Application No
PCT/GB 03/04560

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 E01C13/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 E01C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

PAJ, WPI Data, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 016, no. 299 (M-1274), 2 July 1992 (1992-07-02) -& JP 04 083006 A (TORAY IND INC), 17 March 1992 (1992-03-17)	1,2,13, 14,22, 27,28, 33-35
Y	abstract; figure 3 --- -/-	3-5, 7-12,17, 19-21, 23-26,32



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 January 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

27/01/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DATABASE WPI Section PQ, Week 199817 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class Q41, AN 1998-189892 XP002266684 -& JP 10 046516 A (GEOTECH KK), 17 February 1998 (1998-02-17)	13,14, 16,18, 27,28, 30,31, 33-35
Y	abstract; figures	7-9,17, 23-26
Y	US 3 574 107 A (HURKA JOSEPH L) 6 April 1971 (1971-04-06)	3-5,10, 12,19,32
A	page 2, line 30 - line 38 column 3, line 6 - line 15; figures 1,3	1,13,22, 27,28
Y	FR 1 296 151 A (SKI DEK CORP) 15 June 1962 (1962-06-15)	11,20,21
A	page 2, column 2, line 13 - line 29; figure 7	1,12,13, 22,27,28
A	WO 99 60213 A (MATTHIAS CLAUS G) 25 November 1999 (1999-11-25) abstract page 5, last line; figure 3	6,15,29
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